

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 14, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1032

Introduced by Assembly Member Jones

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 8203 of, and to add Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 8238) to Chapter 2 of Part 6 of, the Education Code, relating to child care, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1032, as amended, Jones. Child care: preschool teachers: professional learning: instructional support grants.

Existing law, known as the Child Care and Development Services Act, provides for a system of child care and development services for children from infancy to 13 years of age by public and private child care providers.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop standards for the implementation of quality child care and development programs, including that staff possess the appropriate and required qualifications or experience, or both.

This bill would *require the Superintendent to develop preschool learning standards for the implementation of quality child care and development programs, and would include within those standards professional learning for preschool classroom staff.*

Existing law requires the Superintendent to administer all state preschool programs, as specified.

This bill would authorize state funded preschool, child care and development, and family literacy programs serving preschool age children to apply to the State Department of Education for instructional support grants to provide a certain number of hours of training on the reading/language arts standards and the mathematics standards for classroom teachers and aides. The bill would require the training to be provided by certain providers approved by the Superintendent and would require the Superintendent to approve the content of the training. The bill would specify the manner in which the amount of a grant is to be determined. *The bill would require the Superintendent to evaluate the program under which a grant is provided, and report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by July 1, 2009.* The bill would appropriate \$4,500,000 from federal funds to the Superintendent for purposes of providing instructional support grants.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 8203 of the Education Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 8203. The Superintendent shall develop *preschool learning*
- 4 standards for the implementation of quality programs. Indicators
- 5 of quality shall include all of the following:
- 6 (a) A physical environment that is safe and appropriate to the
- 7 ages of the children and that meets applicable licensing
- 8 standards.
- 9 (b) Program activities and services that are age appropriate
- 10 and meet the developmental needs of each child.
- 11 (c) Program activities and services that meet the cultural and
- 12 linguistic needs of children and families.
- 13 (d) Family and community involvement.
- 14 (e) Parent education.
- 15 (f) Efficient and effective local program administration.
- 16 (g) (1) Staff that possesses the appropriate and required
- 17 qualifications or experience, or both. The appropriate staff
- 18 qualifications shall reflect the diverse linguistic and cultural
- 19 makeup of the children and families in the child care and

1 development program. The use of intergenerational staff shall be
2 encouraged.

3 (2) Professional learning for ~~preschool~~ classroom staff.

4 (h) Program activities and services that meet the needs of
5 children with exceptional needs and their families.

6 (i) Support services for children, families, and providers of
7 care.

8 (j) Resource and referral services.

9 (k) Alternative payment services.

10 (l) Provision for nutritional needs of children.

11 (m) Social services that include, ~~but are not limited to,~~
12 identification of child and family needs and referral to
13 appropriate agencies.

14 (n) Health services that include referral of children to
15 appropriate agencies for services.

16 SEC. 2. Article 7.5 (commencing with Section 8238) is added
17 to Chapter 2 of Part 6 of the Education Code, to read:

18
19 Article 7.5. Preschool Teacher Instructional Support Grant
20 Program
21

22 8238. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that a high
23 quality preschool experience is essential to prepare young
24 children to meet the high expectations of California's public
25 elementary schools and to close the achievement gap. The
26 Legislature further finds that long-term and recent research
27 clearly indicate that improving learning by young children is a
28 function of increasing the skill of classroom instructional staff.
29 There is an emerging consensus in California among legislators,
30 educators, researchers, and the public that a key to boosting
31 achievement by young children is to ensure that committed,
32 highly skilled classroom teachers and aides are in every
33 classroom.

34 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to provide professional
35 learning opportunities for preschool classroom teachers and aides
36 on the prekindergarten reading/language arts and mathematics
37 *learning* standards adopted by the Superintendent. The
38 Legislature recognizes that in addition to ~~mastering content~~
39 *developing a foundation* in the areas of early literacy and early
40 numeracy, ~~pupils~~ *children* also should be developing the social,

1 emotional, cognitive, and physical skills that they need to be
2 successful in school.

3 8238.1. For purposes of this article, the following definitions
4 apply:

5 (a) “Classroom aide” means a person who is employed on
6 either a full-time or part-time basis for the purpose of directly
7 assisting in classroom instruction in a state funded preschool,
8 child care and development program, or family literacy program
9 serving preschool age children.

10 (b) “Teacher” means a person who holds a valid child
11 development permit or other acceptable teaching credential
12 issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and is
13 employed on either a full-time or part-time basis in a state funded
14 preschool, child care and development program, or family
15 literacy program serving preschool age children.

16 (c) “Agency” means a school district, county office of
17 education, or other public or private entity under contract with or
18 receiving a grant from, the department for the provision of
19 preschool, child care and development, or family literacy
20 services to preschool-age children.

21 8238.2. (a) State funded preschool, child care and
22 development, and family literacy programs serving preschool age
23 children may apply to the department for instructional support
24 grants to provide 20 hours of training on the reading/language
25 arts *learning* standards and 20 hours of training on the
26 mathematics *learning* standards for classroom teachers and aides.
27 In addition, up to 40 hours of followup support training shall be
28 provided as needed on both the reading/language arts and
29 mathematics *learning* standards. At least 10 hours of the
30 followup support training shall be focused on proactive
31 approaches to addressing the special needs of English learners in
32 preparing them to enter kindergarten ready to acquire English
33 and the special needs of children with exceptional needs. The
34 training shall be provided through agencies approved by the
35 Superintendent. The Superintendent shall also approve the
36 content of the training.

37 (b) The grants awarded pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be
38 based on the number of classroom teachers and classroom aides
39 receiving the training. The Superintendent shall set the amount
40 per teacher and the amount per aide based upon the requirements

1 of the training and the amount of funds appropriated for purposes
2 of this article.

3 8238.3. *The Superintendent shall conduct an evaluation of*
4 *the Preschool Teacher Instructional Support Grant Program and*
5 *report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by*
6 *July 1, 2009. The report shall include all of the following:*

7 (a) *The number of teachers who received training pursuant to*
8 *this article, itemized by type of permit or credential held.*

9 (b) *The number of classroom aides who directly assist with*
10 *early childhood classroom instruction in reading/language arts*
11 *or mathematics who received training pursuant to this article.*

12 (c) *The identity of the entities that received funds for the*
13 *purpose of offering training pursuant to this article, and the*
14 *number of teachers and classroom aides, who directly assist with*
15 *classroom instruction in reading/language arts and mathematics,*
16 *that each entity has trained.*

17 (d) *Information detailing the effectiveness of the program*
18 *established pursuant to this article. The information shall, at a*
19 *minimum, incorporate survey data concerning program*
20 *effectiveness that has been gathered from program participants*
21 *and program directors.*

22 (e) *To the extent available, information detailing the retention*
23 *rate of teachers who received training pursuant to this article,*
24 *itemized by type of permit or credential held. The information*
25 *shall, at a minimum, incorporate sample data regarding teachers*
26 *who are no longer in the profession.*

27 (f) *To the extent available, information detailing the retention*
28 *rate of classroom aides who directly assist with classroom*
29 *instruction in reading/language arts and mathematics who*
30 *received training pursuant to this article.*

31 SEC. 3. The sum of four million five hundred thousand
32 dollars (\$4,500,000) is hereby appropriated from federal funds to
33 the Superintendent of Public Instruction for purposes of
34 providing instructional support grants pursuant to Article 7.5
35 (commencing with Section 8238) of Chapter 2 of Part 6 of the
36 Education Code.